1. A method for protecting useful plants or crop plants against phytotoxic side effects of agrochemicals, which comprises applying, as safeners or resistance inductors, an effective amount of one or more compounds of the formula (I) or salts thereof, before, after or simultaneously with the agrochemicals to the plants, parts of plants, plant seeds or propagation material,

$$R^{3}-(Z)_{n}$$
 $R^{4}-(Z')_{m}$ 
 $R^{6}$ 
 $(Z'')_{n}-R^{5}$ 

where

R<sup>1</sup> is carboxyl or a derivative of the carboxyl group,

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>6</sup>, in each case independently of one another, are hydrogen, halogen, SCN, CN or an unsubstituted or substituted hydrocarbon radical,

- R<sup>3</sup> (a) in the case that n = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula A<sup>1</sup> or B<sup>1</sup> or
  - (b) in the case that n = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^1$ ,  $B^1$  or  $C^1$  and
- $R^4$  (a) in the case that m = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula  $A^2$  or  $B^2$  or
  - (b) in the case that m = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^2$ ,  $B^2$  or  $C^2$  and
- $R^5$  (a) in the case that o = 0 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^3$  or  $B^3$  or
  - (b) in the case that o = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^3$ ,  $B^3$  or  $C^3$ .

where each of the radicals A<sup>1</sup>, A<sup>2</sup>, A<sup>3</sup>, in each case independently of one another, is an unsubstituted or substituted hydrocarbon radical, each of the radicals B<sup>1</sup>, B<sup>2</sup>, B<sup>3</sup>, in each case independently of one another, is an acyl radical and

each of the radicals C<sup>1</sup>, C<sup>2</sup>, C<sup>3</sup>, in each case independently of one another, is an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic radical,

Z, Z', Z", in each case independently of one another, are a group of the formula O,  $S(O)_x$  or NR',

where x = 0, 1 or 2 and R' is hydrogen or an unsubstituted or substituted hydrocarbon radical or an unsubstituted or substituted hydrocarbonoxy radical or acyloxy,

- m is an integer 0 or 1,
- n is an integer 0 or 1 and
- o is an integer 0 or 1,

where the sum m + n + o is an integer 1, 2 or 3 and, in the case of the alternatives (b) defined above, at least one of the radicals  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  is selected from radicals from the group consisting of hydrogen and  $B^1$ ,  $B^2$  and  $B^3$ , respectively.

- 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
- R<sup>1</sup> is a radical of the formula
  - -CN
  - -C(=X)-Y-R or
  - -C(=X)-Het,

## in which

- X is a divalent radical of the formula O, S or NR<sup>a</sup> or N-NR<sup>a</sup>R<sup>b</sup>, where R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup> are as defined below,
- Y is a group of the formula O, S, NR<sup>c</sup> or NR<sup>c</sup>-NR<sup>d</sup>R<sup>e</sup>, where R<sup>c</sup>, R<sup>d</sup> and R<sup>e</sup> are as defined below.
- R is hydrogen or an unsubstituted or substituted hydrocarbon radical or an unsubstituted or substituted heterocyclic radical or acyl, and
- Het is an aliphatic N-heterocycle having a total of 1 to 4 heterocyclic ring atoms which is attached via a heterocyclic ring N-atom to the group C(=X) and which may contain, as heterocyclic ring atoms, in addition to the N-atom in the yl-position, further heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, and which is unsubstituted or substituted,

where each of the radicals R<sup>a</sup>, R<sup>b</sup>, R<sup>c</sup>, R<sup>d</sup> and R<sup>e</sup> in the radicals X and Y is, in each case independently of one another and independently of the radical R,

as defined for R or is a radical of the formula -OR\*, where R\* is, independently of R, as defined for R.

- 3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein
- R<sup>1</sup> is a radical of the formula -C(=X)-Y-R or -C(=X)-Het, in which
  - X is a divalent radical of the formula O, S or NR<sup>a</sup> or N-NR<sup>a</sup>R<sup>b</sup>, where R<sup>a</sup> and R<sup>b</sup> are as defined below,
  - Y is a group of the formula O, S, NR<sup>c</sup> or NR<sup>c</sup>-NR<sup>d</sup>R<sup>e</sup>, where R<sup>c</sup>, R<sup>d</sup> and R<sup>e</sup> are as defined below.
  - are as defined below, is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_{18})$ -alkyl,  $(C_2-C_{18})$ -alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_{18})$ -alkynyl,  $(C_3-C_9)$ -R cycloalkyl, (C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>)-cycloalkenyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>)-cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl, where each of the 10 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -alkenyloxy,  $(C_2-C_4)$ haloalkenyloxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylthio,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ alkylsulfonyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl and (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkyl, or  $(C_1-C_6)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, [phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl]carbonyl, [phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy]carbonyl, where the phenyl ring of each of the 4 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted

[phenyl-( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkyl]carbonyl, [phenyl-( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkoxy]carbonyl, where the phenyl ring of each of the 4 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted, aminocarbonyl, mono-[( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylamino]carbonyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylsulfinyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylsulfinyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkylsulfinyl or ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkylsulfonyl, and, including substituents, has 1 to 30 C-atoms, and

Het is an aliphatic N-heterocycle having a total of 1 to 3 heterocyclic ring atoms and a total of 5 or 6 ring atoms, which is attached via a

heterocyclic ring N-atom to the group C(=X) and which may contain, as heterocyclic ring atoms, in addition to the N-atom in the yl-position, further heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S and which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylthio and oxo,

where each of the radicals R<sup>a</sup>, R<sup>b</sup>, R<sup>c</sup>, R<sup>d</sup> and R<sup>e</sup> in the radicals X and Y, in each case independently of one another and independently of the radical R, is as defined for R or a radical of the formula -OR\*, where R\*, independently of R, is as defined for R, and

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>6</sup>, in each case independently of one another, are hydrogen, halogen, SCN, CN, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkenyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkynyl or (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-cycloalkyl, where each of the 4 last mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylthio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylsulfinyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylsulfonyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkylsulfinyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkylsulfonyl, mono-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino, di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyland (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkyl,

and

- R<sup>3</sup> (a) in the case that n = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula A<sup>1</sup> or B<sup>1</sup> or
  - (b) in the case that n = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^1$ ,  $B^1$  or  $C^1$  and
- R<sup>4</sup> (a) in the case that m = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula A<sup>2</sup> or B<sup>2</sup> or
  - (b) in the case that m = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^2$ ,  $B^2$  or  $C^2$  and
- $R^5$  (a) in the case that o = 0 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^3$  or  $B^3$  or
  - (b) in the case that o = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^3$ ,  $B^3$  or

 $C^3$ ,

where each of the radicals  $A^1$ ,  $A^2$ ,  $A^3$ , in each case independently of one another, is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_{18})$ -alkyl,  $(C_2-C_{18})$ -alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_{18})$ -alkynyl,  $(C_3-C_9)$ -cycloalkyl,  $(C_5-C_9)$ -cycloalkenyl,  $(C_3-C_9)$ -cycloalkyl- $(C_1-C_{12})$ -alkyl, phenyl, phenyl- $(C_1-C_{12})$ -alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl- $(C_1-C_{12})$ -alkyl, where each of the 10 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by

one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -alkenyloxy,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -haloalkenyloxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfonyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl and  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl,

and

where each of the radicals C', C², C³, in each case independently of one another, is an aliphatic or aromatic heterocycle having a total of 1 to 3 heterocyclic ring atoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S and a total of 5 or 6 ring atoms, which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, (C₁-C₄)-alkyl, (C₁-C₄)-alkoxy, (C₁-C₄)-haloalkyl, (C₁-C₄)-haloalkoxy, (C₁-C₄)-alkylthio and oxo, and

Z, Z', Z'', in each case independently of one another, are a group of the formula O,  $S(O)_x$  or NR',

where x = 0, 1 or 2 and R' is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -

alkynyl,  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -alkenyloxy,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -alkynyloxy or  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyloxy,

where each of the 8 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylthio,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl, or

 $(C_1-C_6)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_6)$ -alkanoyloxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyloxy,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyloxy, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]-carbonyl, phenylcarbonyloxy, phenoxycarbonyloxy,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl]-carbonyloxy or  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyloxy, where the phenyl ring of each of the 8 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted, or aminocarbonyl, mono- $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl or  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -

- m is an integer 0 or 1,
- n is an integer 0 or 1 and
- o is an integer 0 or 1,

where the sum m + n + o is an integer 1, 2 or 3 and, in the case of the alternatives (b) defined above, at least one of the radicals  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  is selected from radicals from the group consisting of hydrogen and a radical of the formula  $B^1$ ,  $B^2$  and  $B^3$ , respectively.

- 4. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein
- R<sup>3</sup> (a) in the case that n = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula A<sup>1</sup> or B<sup>1</sup> or
  - (b) in the case that n = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^1$ ,  $B^1$  or

C1 and

 $R^5$ 

- $R^4$  (a) in the case that m = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula  $A^2$  or  $B^2$  or
  - (b) in the case that m = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^2$ ,  $B^2$  or  $C^2$  and
  - (a) in the case that o = 0 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^3$  or  $B^3$  or
    - (b) in the case that o = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^3$ ,  $B^3$  or  $C^3$ ,

where each of the radicals  $A^1$ ,  $A^2$ ,  $A^3$ , in each case independently of one another, is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_{12})$ -alkyl,  $(C_2-C_{12})$ -alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_{12})$ -alkynyl,  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyl,  $(C_5-C_6)$ -cycloalkenyl,  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl, phenyl, phenyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl,

where each of the 10 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkenyloxy, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkenyloxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylthio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylsulfinyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylsulfinyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylsulfonyl, mono-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino, di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkanoyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkanoyl, [(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case cyclic radicals, also (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl and (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkyl,

and

where each of the radicals  $B^1$ ,  $B^2$ ,  $B^3$ , in each case independently of one another, is  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl or  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfonyl and

where each of the radicals  $C^1$ ,  $C^2$ ,  $C^3$ , in each case independently of one another, is an aliphatic or aromatic heterocycle having a total of 1 to 3 heterocyclic ring atoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S and a total of 5 or 6 ring atoms, which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl, in and oxo, and

Z, Z', Z", in the case independently of one another, are a group of the formula O, S, SO, SO<sub>2</sub> or NR',

where R' is hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-cycloalkyl or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy, where each of the 3 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)alkylthio and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl and (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkyl, or

 $(C_1-C_6)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_6)$ -alkanoyloxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyloxy,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, [phenyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl]-carbonyl or [phenyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl, where the phenyl ring of each of the 3 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted, or  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl-sulfinyl or  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfonyl, and

- m is an integer 0 or 1,
- n is an integer 0 or 1 and
- o is an integer 0 or 1,

where the sum m + n + o is an integer 1, 2 or 3 and, in the case of the alternatives (b) defined above, at least one of the radicals  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  selected from radicals from the group consisting of hydrogen and a radical of the formula  $B^1$ ,  $B^2$  and  $B^3$ , respectively.

- 5. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein
- R<sup>1</sup> is a radical of the formula

-CO-OR

or

-C(=NR<sup>a</sup>)-OR

or

-CO-NR°R

where each of the radicals R, R<sup>a</sup>, R<sup>b</sup> and R<sup>c</sup> is as defined.

- 6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compounds of the formula (I) are used as safeners against phytotoxic actions of agrochemicals in these plants.
- 7. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the compounds of the formula (I) are used as safeners against phytotoxic actions of pesticides from the group consisting of herbicides, insecticides, acaricides, nematicides and fungicides.

- 8. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compounds of the formula (I) are used for protecting the plants against harmful environmental factors.
- 9. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the compounds of the formula (I) are used in the plants to induce resistance against infection by pathogens.
- 10. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the application is by the postemergence method.
- 11. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the application is by treating the plant seeds or propagation material.
- 12. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the application is by the preemergence method.
- 13. A compound of the formula (I) or a salt thereof,

$$R^{3}-(Z)_{n}$$
 $R^{4}-(Z')_{m}$ 
 $R^{6}$ 
 $(Z'')_{0}-R^{5}$ 

where

R<sup>1</sup> is a radical of the formula

-CO-OR

or

-C(=NR<sup>a</sup>)-OR

or

-CO-NR°R.

R is hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)-alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)-alkenyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>18</sub>)-alkynyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>)-cycloalkyl, (C<sub>5</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>)-cycloalkenyl, (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>9</sub>)-cycloalkyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl, phenyl, phenyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>)-alkyl, where each of the 10 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group

consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato,

 $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -alkenyloxy,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -haloalkenyloxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylthio,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfonyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]-carbonyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl and  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl, or

 $(C_1-C_6)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl,  $[phenyl-(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl]carbonyl,  $[phenyl-(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl, where the phenyl ring of each of the 4 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted, aminocarbonyl, mono- $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl, di- $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl, haloalkylsulfonyl,

Het is an aliphatic N-heterocycle having a total of 1 to 3 heterocyclic ring atoms and a total of 5 or 6 ring atoms, which is attached via a heterocyclic ring N-atom to the group C(=X) and which may contain, as heterocyclic ring atoms, in addition to the N-atom in the yl-position, further heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S and which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylthio and oxo,

where each of the radicals R<sup>a</sup>, R<sup>b</sup>, R<sup>c</sup>, R<sup>d</sup> and R<sup>e</sup> in the radicals X and Y, in each case independently of one another and independently of the radical R, is as defined for R or a radical of the formula -OR\*, where R\*, independently of R, is as defined for R, and,

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>6</sup>, in each case independently of one another, are hydrogen, halogen, SCN, CN, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkenyl, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkynyl or (C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>)-cycloalkyl, where each of the 4 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylthio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylsulfinyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkylsulfinyl, mono-

 $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl, di- $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl and  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl,

- R<sup>3</sup> (a) in the case that n = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula A<sup>1</sup> or B<sup>1</sup> or
  - (b) in the case that n = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^1$ ,  $B^1$  or  $C^1$  and
- $R^4$  (a) in the case that m = 0 is a radical selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, SCN and CN or a radical of the formula  $A^2$  or  $B^2$  or
  - (b) in the case that m = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^2$ ,  $B^2$  or  $C^2$  and
- $R^5$  (a) in the case that o = 0 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^3$  or  $B^3$  or
  - (b) in the case that o = 1 is hydrogen or a radical of the formula  $A^3$ ,  $B^3$  or  $C^3$ .

where each of the radicals  $A^1$ ,  $A^2$ ,  $A^3$ , in each case independently of one another, is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_{18})$ -alkyl,  $(C_2-C_{18})$ -alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_{18})$ -alkynyl,  $(C_3-C_9)$ -cycloalkyl,  $(C_5-C_9)$ -cycloalkenyl,  $(C_3-C_9)$ -cycloalkyl- $(C_1-C_{12})$ -alkyl, phenyl, phenyl- $(C_1-C_{12})$ -alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl- $(C_1-C_{12})$ -alkyl,

where each of the 10 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkenyloxy, (C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkenyloxy, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl-thio, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylsulfinyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylsulfinyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkylsulfinyl, mono-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino, di-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl-amino, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkanoyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkanoyl, [(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono-[(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl-amino]carbonyl, di-[(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl and (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkyl,

and, including substituents, has 1 to 30 C-atoms, preferably 1 to 20 C-atoms, in particular 1 to 16 C-atoms,

where each of the radicals  $B^1$ ,  $B^2$ ,  $B^3$ , in each case independently of one another, is  $(C_1-C_6)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,

[( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl, [phenyl-( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkyl]carbonyl, [phenyl-( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkoxy]carbonyl, where the phenyl ring of each of the 4 last-mentioned radicals may be unsubstituted or substituted, aminocarbonyl, mono-[( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylamino]carbonyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylsulfinyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylsulfonyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkylsulfinyl or ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkylsulfonyl, and where each of the radicals  $C^1$ ,  $C^2$ ,  $C^3$ , in each case independently of one another, is an aliphatic or aromatic heterocycle having a total of 1 to 3 heterocyclic ring atoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S and a total of 5 or 6 ring atoms, which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkoxy, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkoxy, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkoxy, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkoxy, and

Z, Z', Z", in each case independently of one another, are a group of the formula O,  $S(O)_x$  or NR',

where x = 0, 1 or 2 and R' is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -alkynyl,  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -alkenyloxy,  $(C_2-C_4)$ -alkynyloxy or  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyloxy,

where each of the 8 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, cyano, nitro, thiocyanato,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylthio,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl and  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl, or

 $(C_1-C_6)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_6)$ -alkanoyloxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyloxy,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyloxy, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]-carbonyloxy, phenylcarbonyloxy, phenylcarbonyloxy, phenyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl]-carbonyloxy or  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]-al

each of the 8 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted, or amino-carbonyl, mono-[( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylamino]carbonyl, di-[( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylamino]carbonyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-alkylsulfinyl, ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkylsulfinyl, or ( $C_1$ - $C_4$ )-haloalkylsulfonyl,

- m is an integer 0 or 1,
- n is an integer 0 or 1 and
- o is an integer 0 or 1,

where the sum m + n + o is an integer 1, 2 or 3 and, in the case of the alternatives (b) defined above, at least one of the radicals  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  is selected from radicals from the group consisting of hydrogen and a radical of the formula  $B^1$ ,  $B^2$  and  $B^3$ , respectively.

- 14. A compound of the formula (I) or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 13, wherein
- R<sup>1</sup> is a radical of the formula -CO-OR, in which
- is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_8)$ -alkyl,  $(C_2-C_8)$ -alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_8)$ -alkynyl,  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyl,  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl, phenyl, phenyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl,

where each of the 9 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, hydroxyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylthio,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl and  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl.

- 15. A compound of the formula (I) or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 13, wherein
- R<sup>1</sup> is a radical of the formula -C(=NR<sup>a</sup>)-OR,
- R is  $(C_1-C_8)$ -alkyl,  $(C_2-C_8)$ -alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_8)$ -alkynyl,  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyl,  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl, phenyl, phenyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl,

where each of the 9 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $((C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy)-

carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl and  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl,

or

 $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl,  $[phenyl-(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl]-carbonyl,  $[phenyl-(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $[C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $[C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $[C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfonyl,  $[C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfonyl

and

- is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylaulfinyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl or  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl.
- 16. A compound of the formula (I) or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 13, wherein is a radical of the formula -CO-NR<sup>c</sup>R,
- is hydrogen,  $(C_1-C_8)$ -alkyl,  $(C_2-C_8)$ -alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_8)$ -alkynyl,  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyl,  $(C_3-C_6)$ -cycloalkyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl, phenyl, phenyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl, heterocyclyl or heterocyclyl- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl,

where each of the 9 last-mentioned radicals is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylthio,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfonyl, mono- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino, di- $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]-carbonyl and, in the case of cyclic radicals, also  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl and  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkyl,

or

 $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkanoyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkanoyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl,  $[(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkoxy]carbonyl, phenylcarbonyl, phenoxycarbonyl,  $[phenyl-(C_1-C_4)$ -alkyl]-carbonyl,  $[phenyl-(C_1-C_4)$ -alkoxy]carbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- $[(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylamino]carbonyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfinyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -alkylsulfonyl,  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfinyl or  $(C_1-C_4)$ -haloalkylsulfonyl and

- is hydrogen, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkyl, which is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy and (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylthio, or (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkanoyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkanoyl, [(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkoxy]carbonyl, [(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-haloalkoxy]carbonyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylsulfinyl and (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>)-alkylsulfonyl.
- 17. A crop protection composition, which comprises compounds of the formula (I) as defined in claim 1 and formulation auxiliaries.
- 18. A crop protection composition, which comprises compounds of the formula (I) as defined in claim 1 and one or more pesticides and, if appropriate, formulation auxiliaries.